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For Immediate Release

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Sen. Goschka proposes increasing state's bond limit *Move would allow new building projects as needed*

LANSING — Legislation introduced this week by Sen. Mike Goschka (R-Brant) would increase the state's bond cap by \$1.3 billion, ensuring that the state can fund new infrastructure and building projects as the need arises.

Senate Bill 1189 would increase the State Building Authority's bond limit from \$2.7 billion to \$4 billion. The cap was last raised in 1997, when it was increased by \$700 million.

Estimates put the available amount that the state could currently borrow at approximately \$460 million, but the governor's capital outlay budget proposal calls for roughly \$350 million in new projects. The senator said the state should have more than an estimated \$100 million in borrowing ability available should a need for new buildings occur—especially on college campuses.

"The state have sufficient reserves it to respond to various needs for infrastructure and buildings," Goschka stated. "The state of Michigan needs more jobs now, and investment in our state universities will provide a win-win situation for everyone involved. People and families need the work in the short-term, and universities can use new infrastructure and buildings in the long-term to graduate Michigan's future workers immediately into jobs that are waiting for them."

SB 1189 was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.